IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 26-28, 30, 42, 44, and 50 as indicated below.

A listing of the status of all claims 1-55 in the present patent application is provided below.

1-25. (Cancelled)

26. (Currently Amended) A method for identifying a time at which first data was written to a first data store, comprising the steps of:

configuring a second data store to respond to data requests with first data if the first data was ~~that may have been~~ stored in ~~a~~ the first data store at a first time in the past;

requesting second data from the second data store;

receiving the second data;

determining from the second data if the first data store contained the first data at the first time; and

identifying a second time, different from the first time, if the first data store did not contain the first data at the first time.

27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 26, further

comprising the steps of:

configuring the second data store to respond to data requests made to the second data store with ~~the~~ data stored in the first data store at ~~a~~ the second time in the past;

requesting third data from the second data store;

receiving the third data from the second data store; and

determining from the third data if the first data store contained the first data at the second time.

28. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 26, further comprising the steps of:

configuring the second data store to respond to data requests made to the second data store with ~~the~~ data stored in the first data store at a third time in the past;

requesting fourth data from the second data store;

receiving the fourth data from the second data store; and

determining from the fourth data if the first data store contained the first data at the third time.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26 wherein the first data is corrupted data.

30. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 26 wherein the

first data store is located on ~~the~~ a same logical device as the second data store.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28 wherein the second time and the third time are selected in response to at least one previously completed determining step.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26 wherein the configuring step further comprises communicating the first time to the second data store.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32 wherein the configuring step further comprises communicating the first time to the second data store via a channel which is used to communicate the request for second data.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32 wherein the configuring step further comprises communicating the first time to the second data store via a different channel than a channel used to communicate the request for second data.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26 wherein the second data store is a virtual representation of the first data

store at the first time.

36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26 wherein the determining step comprises comparing the second data and the first data.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26, further comprising, prior to the configuring step, continuously saving information stored in the first data store before it is overwritten.

38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the first time is a time selected from a substantially continuous time interval between a past time and a current time.

39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26 wherein the second data store is configured using a user interface.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26 wherein the second data store is configured by an I/O command.

41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26 wherein the second data store is configured substantially immediately.

42. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 41 wherein the second data store is configured substantially immediately relative to at least one time at which the first data was written to the first data store.

43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26 wherein the second data store is configured without copying data from the first data store to the second data store.

44. (Currently Amended) A method for identifying a time at which a data store was corrupted, comprising the steps of:

(a) configuring ~~a~~ the data store to respond to data requests with data if the data was ~~that may have been~~ present in the data store at a first time in the past;

(b) requesting data from the data store;

(c) receiving data from the data store in response to the request; and

(d) determining from the received data whether the data store was corrupted at the first time;

(e) repeating steps (a), (b), (c), and (d) by substituting a second time for the first time, wherein the second time is earlier than the first time if it was determined that the data

store was corrupted, and the second time is later than the first time if it was determined that the data store was not corrupted.

45. (Canceled)

46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 44 wherein step (e) comprises repeating steps (a), (b), (c), and (d) a number of repetitions, each repetition substituting a different respective time that was not employed in a previous repetition.

47. (Canceled)

48. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 46, wherein the repeating step is performed until a time range in which the data store was corrupted is identified.

49. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 44, further comprising the step of configuring the data store to respond to data requests made to the data store with the data present in the data store during an identified time range.

50. (Currently Amended) A method for identifying a time at which a data store was modified in a predetermined manner,

comprising the steps of:

(a) configuring ~~a~~ the data store to respond to data requests with data if the data was ~~that may have been~~ present in the data store at a first time in the past;

(b) requesting data from the data store;

(c) receiving data from the data store in response to the request of data from the data store; and

(d) determining from the received data whether the data store was modified in a predetermined manner at the first time;

(e) repeating steps (a), (b), (c), and (d) by substituting a second time for the first time, wherein the second time is earlier than the first time if it was determined that the data store was modified in the predetermined manner, and the second time is later than the first time if it was determined that the data store was not modified in the predetermined manner.

51. (Canceled)

52. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 50, wherein step (e) comprises repeating steps (a), (b), (c), and (d) a number of repetitions, each repetition substituting a different respective time that was not employed in a previous repetition.

53. (Canceled)

54. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 52, wherein the repeating step is performed until a time range in which the data store was modified in the predetermined manner is identified.

55. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 50, further comprising the step of configuring the data store to respond to data requests made to the data store with data present in the data store during an identified time range.